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V. Jone
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toru SUMINO

Appln. No. 09/487,726

Group Art Unit: 2766

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: January 19, 2000

For: INDIVIDUAL AUTHENTICATION SYSTEM PERFORMING AUTHENTICATION
IN MULTIPLE STEPS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2-173869, published July 5, 1990.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-240691, published September 11, 1998.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 7-234940, published September 5, 1995.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-255005, published September 25, 1998.
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 3-58174, published March 13, 1991.

Toru SUMINO
09/487,726
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 63-36468, published February 17, 1988.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Japanese Office Action dated January 22, 2002, and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof, which cites and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Ref. #Q57604

Annotation

Prior Art Literature 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H2-173869

Prior Art Literature 2: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-240691

Prior Art Literature 3: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H7-234940

Prior Art Literature 4: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-255005

Comments:

Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7; Cited Literature: Prior Art Literature 1 and 2

Prior Art Literature 1 describes a technology for verifying the validity of a user of a card by comparing fingerprint data that is read from an IC card to fingerprint data that is read from the user when there is a matching result when a comparison of a secret code that is read from an IC card is compared to a secret code that is inputted by a user, where the secret code (corresponding to the "identification information" in the present application) and the fingerprint information, which together specify the registered user, are stored in advance in an IC card.

In addition, in the technology for verifying the user of an information device by verifying the validity of the user of the card, Prior Art Literature 2 describes a technology wherein there is a comparison between an identification code that is stored in the information equipment side after the identification code (corresponding to the "password" in the present application) that is stored in the card is read when verifying the validity of the card user, where, by combining the technologies described in said Prior Art Literature 1 with said Prior Art Literature 2 the inventions pertaining to Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 of the present application could easily be obtained by an individual skilled in the art.

Claim 4; Cited Literature: Prior Art Literature 1 through 3

Prior Art Literature 3 describes a verification technology that uses fingerprint information wherein said technology can be used even in cases wherein the fingers have been injured, doing so by recording multiple fingerprint information. Even in the technology described in the Prior Art Literature 1, it would be easy for an individual skilled in the art to obtain the invention pertaining to Claim 4 of the present application by creating a structure such that multiple fingerprint data is stored in an IC card based on the technology described in the aforementioned Prior Art Literature 3.

Claim 6; Cited Literature: Prior Art Literature 1, 2, and 4

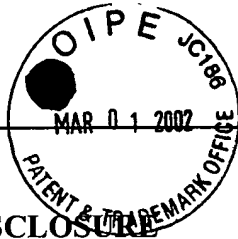
Encrypting the fingerprint information, etc. recorded in a card is a well-known technical issue, such as the technology described in, for example, Prior Art Literature 4, and thus, even in the technology described in Prior Art Literature 1, it would be easy for an individual skilled in the art to obtain the invention pertaining to Claim 6 of the present application by encrypting the fingerprint information, etc. stored in the IC card.

Notification will be provided if new reasons for rejection are discovered.

- Prior Art Literature

A: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H3-58174

B: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication S63-36468



Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/487,726
Confirmation Number	Unknown
Filing Date	January 19, 2000
First Named Inventor	Toru SUMINO
Art Unit	2766
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	Q57604

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2-173869		07/05/1990		
		JP	10-240691		09/11/1998		
		JP	7-23440		09/05/1995		
		JP	10-255005		09/25/1998		
		JP	3-58174		03/13/1991		
		JP	63-36468		02/17/1988		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.